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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/729,331	12/05/2003	Teik-Chung Tan	5500-91700	1155

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MEYERTONS, HOOD, KIVLIN, KOWERT & GOETZEL (AMD)
P.O. BOX 398
AUSTIN, TX 78767-0398

EXAMINER

FENNEMA, ROBERT E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2183

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY-MODE
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12/20/2006

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Advisory Action
Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief**

Application No.

10/729,331

Applicant(s)

TAN ET AL.

Examiner

Robert E. Fennema

Art Unit

2183

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 04 December 2006 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☒ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) ☐ The period for reply expires _____ months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
b) ☒ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. ☐ The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because
(a) ☐ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
(b) ☐ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
(c) ☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
(d) ☐ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).
5. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
7. ☐ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☐ will not be entered, or b) ☐ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.
The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:
Claim(s) allowed: _____.
Claim(s) objected to: _____.
Claim(s) rejected: _____.
Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).
9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).
10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

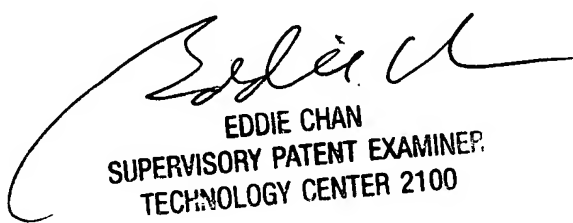
REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. ☒ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:
See Continuation Sheet.
12. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s). _____.
13. ☐ Other: _____.

Continuation of 11. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: Firstly, Applicant has argued on Page 2 (among others) that Tredenick fails to teach a microcode ROM, wherein a row stores a plurality of groups of microcode operations, and has instead claimed that each address selects a single word line in a store, and this assumption is the basis for many of the following arguments in the response. In response to this, Examiner refers to figures 10 and 11, showing the contents of the micro and nano ROMs respectively. It is very clear from these figures that the instructions are stored in rows, 4 instructions per row, with 2 bits from the address determining the column in the row to be selected from that row. This is a very similar concept to caches, where part of the address is used to select a line in the memory, and the remaining parts of the address are used to select which part of the line is to be used. Furthermore, Column 17, Lines 29-32 clearly state that two microwords which serve as alternate designations for a branch must be placed in the same logical row of the micro ROM. This clearly indicates that multiple microword instructions are placed in the same row of the ROM. As for being "groups" of operations, Examiner will use an example, in the immediate case, Figure 11a, Address 00010011(xx), which refers to the 8th row displayed. These first right bits indicate the 8th row, and the final two bits, A1 and A0, indicate which specific operation word to select. There are two groups in this row, swap and tasm (each with two parts, 1 and 2). Alternatively, the groups could contain a single instruction, with some rows containing up to 4 groups of operation, based on the particular row and exact length of ROM chosen to implement the design. On page 6, Applicant references figure 11 to show how the operations are not stored in the same row, and Examiner believes that the figures clearly indicate the opposite, that they are stored in the same row, and further indexed with the two least significant address bits, and that there is no indication

Applicant further argues on Page 6 that as an example, ablw1 is not in the same row as ablw2, thus, the group for the ablw is not confined to being in the same row, and is spread out among multiple rows. However, this particular limitation is not found in the Applicant's claims, thus is moot.

Lastly, Examiner would like to address the remarks on Page 9 regarding Claim 27, in which Examiner stated that Claim 27 was similar to Claim 1 with an exception which was explained above, and Applicant has disagreed. While Claim 1 does indicate "identifying", and Claim 27 indicates "accessing", Examiner believed it to be understood from the quoted portions of the reference that the art does both, in that it identifies in order to access, and language to this effect was stated in the rejection of both claims, thus the differences in the claims were negligible in terms of further explaining the rejection, as it previously indicated in each claim that the cited portion of the reference identified a row prior to accessing it, as a row can not be read from a memory if no address (to determine the row) has been identified.



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